

[REDACTED]

FIR-317/09156-76

20 DEC 1976

COUNTRY: Vietnam

DOI : April 1975 - Mid-August 1976

SUBJECT: Sightings of Americans in Long Khanh Province and  
Saigon

ACQ [REDACTED]

SOURCE : [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ethnic Chams  
[REDACTED] who lived in Dong Tam Hamlet (unlocated) at  
Kilometer No. 740 (possibly Kilometer No. 74) in former Govern-  
ment of Vietnam (GVN) Long Khanh (now part of Communist Dong  
Nai) Province said that they had seen an American male at that  
location in January 1976. During the course of a nighttime at-  
tack by a resistance group composed of former Army of the Re-  
public of Vietnam (ARVN) personnel on the Communist cadre in  
this hamlet the inhabitants were assembled to hear speeches by  
members of the resistance group. At this time an American de-  
scribed as an advisor appeared and told those gathered that  
because he loved the Vietnamese people and sympathized with the  
ex-ARVN troops, he was "staying to fight." The American was  
described as dressed in black clothes, wearing map cao (uniden-  
tifiable) shoes, and fluent in Vietnamese. The American with-  
drew with the resistance group after the latter distributed  
food and funds to the inhabitants. (Basequarters Comment: The  
Cham contacts did not give [REDACTED] a physical description or other  
details on this American. Dong Tam Hamlet may be in a cluster  
of hamlets on Route 20 about 74 kilometers from Saigon. Accord-  
ing to FIR-317/01953-76, from another [REDACTED] source who obtained  
the information from a friend with relatives in Long Khanh Pro-  
vince, a Caucasian male who might be an American was seen in  
Dinh Quan District of Long Khanh Province in January 1976. This  
Caucasian was described as unarmed, in a "very miserable condi-  
tion," and living off food obtained from a settler of a New  
Economic Area in the province.)

[REDACTED]

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2. According to [redacted], around May 1975 after the fall of Saigon two Americans were reported under detention by the Communists. [redacted] said that one American male who worked at the Defense Attache Office in Saigon and who lived with his wife and children on Phan Thanh Gian Street was arrested. Around this time [redacted] saw a black American male in handcuffs being taken to a vehicle near Brinks Bachelor Officer Quarters on Hai Ba Trung Street. This black American was described as big, tall, and wearing a prison uniform. (Headquarters Comment: No other details on these two detained Americans are available. Possibly these and other individuals mentioned below may have been evacuated from Saigon after these sightings.)

3. In Spring 1976, (the exact time unknown, [redacted]) a group of four or five hippy-looking male Westerners on Tu Do Street in Saigon. This group appeared like a group of five or six similarly appearing males whom [redacted] saw in front of the former GVN National Assembly building on Tu Do Street in May 1975. [redacted] was able to identify the latter group as Americans by their speech. In May 1976, [redacted] saw two black American males on the "Y" bridge in the Eighth Precinct of Saigon. [redacted] claiming to have spoken with these Americans said that the latter were seeking jobs and housing for themselves and their Vietnamese wives. (Headquarters Comment: No other physical descriptions or details are available.)

4. A Vietnamese national [redacted] who left Vietnam [redacted] September 1976, [redacted] stated that in May 1976 he had seen an American male in downtown Saigon. The latter was a Caucasian, about 40 years old, [redacted] working in the USAID office at 85 Le Van Duyet Street prior to 29 April 1975. [redacted] this same man in May 1975 walking freely about in downtown Saigon.

5. [redacted] said that in mid-August 1976 he saw two or three Caucasian males, described as Americans, at an apartment-hotel building opposite the Grall Hospital on Gia Long Street. These men were moving around freely without an escort. (Headquarters Comment: [redacted])

[redacted] said that he recognized these men as Americans by their speech.



On 1 August 1976 several Americans claimed by the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to be the last of those Americans stranded in South Vietnam after the fall of Saigon were evacuated from Vietnam. Although some French nationals once staffed the Grall Hospital, none is believed to have been still there in August 1976.)